HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Senator Richard Lugar in his efforts to safeguard the American people from the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction throughout the world.

Grubb, Richardson

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Senator Richard Lugar in his efforts to safeguard the American people from the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction throughout the world.

Whereas, The collapse of the Soviet Union brought a unique problem to the citizens of the world;

Whereas, This was the first time that a nuclear nation had suddenly broken apart, and nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons command and control programs collapsed;

Whereas, The United States faced the grim possibility that weapons previously held in secure Soviet facilities and technology previously restricted to the Soviet military could be stolen or sold to the highest bidder;

Whereas, Senator Lugar and Senator Nunn worked diligently to develop a plan that would safeguard the welfare of the citizens of the former Soviet Union and the rest of the world and reduce the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas, The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program uses money from the United States defense budget every year and allocates it to help the states of the former Soviet Union eliminate and safeguard nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas, The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program is not foreign aid and more than 80% of the funds

are awarded through contracts to American companies.

Whereas, The goal of the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program is to lessen the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction, to deactivate and destroy these weapons, and to assist former weapons experts to find long-term, peaceful employment;

Whereas, In 1997, Senators Lugar and Nunn were joined by Senator Pete Domenici in introducing the Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act;

Whereas, This act expanded Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program authorities in the former Soviet Union and provided defense against weapons of mass destruction expertise and equipment to first responders in 120 American cities;

Whereas, The city of Indianapolis and Marion Country received first-responder training and equipment under the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Program in 1998, and Fort Wayne and Allen County received training and equipment in 2000.

Whereas, In 2003, Congress adopted the Nunn-Lugar Expansion Act authorizing the Nunn-Lugar Program to operate outside the former Soviet Union to address proliferation threats; and in October 2004, Nunn-Lugar Program funds were used for the first time outside of the former Soviet Union to destroy 16 tons of chemical weapons in Albania;

Whereas, Since its inception in 1991, the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program has helped to deactivate 6,760 nuclear warheads; destroyed 590 missile silos, 32 mobile missile launchers, 150 strategic bombers, 789 air-to-surface nuclear missiles, 549 submarine launched missiles, 436 submarine missile launchers, and 28 strategic missile submarines; and sealed 194 nuclear test tunnels;

Whereas, The countries of Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan emerged from the Soviet Union as the third, fourth, and eighth largest nuclear powers in the world, and

today they are free of nuclear weapons because of the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program.

Whereas, Still striving to reduce the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction throughout the world, Senator Richard Lugar has offered legislation with Senator Barack Obama;

Whereas, Senator Lugar invited his Democratic colleague to join his annual trip to inspect weapons storage and elimination sites in Russia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan;

Whereas, Senator Obama joined Senator Lugar in proclaiming the need for urgency to prevent stockpiles of nuclear, biological, and conventional weapons from falling into the hands of terrorists;

Whereas, During their trip to the former Soviet Union, Senators Lugar and Obama witnessed first hand the progress the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program is making in improving the safety and security of nuclear warheads, the consolidation and security improvements at biological pathogens storage facilities, and the elimination of mobile intercontinental ballistic missile launchers;

Whereas, Senators Lugar and Obama recently introduced legislation aimed at eliminating stockpiles of conventional weapons such as shoulder-fired missiles that terrorists have used to attack commercial aircraft, fuel civil wars in Africa and elsewhere and ammunition to attack peacekeepers and aid workers seeking to stabilize and rebuild war-torn societies;

Whereas, The Lugar-Obama legislation also seeks to strengthen the ability of America's friends and allies to detect and interdict illegal shipments of weapons of mass destruction or material that could be used in nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and to build a robust international network for stopping the proliferation of these weapons; and

Whereas, The efforts of Senator Richard Lugar to eliminate stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction and conventional

weapons transcends politics; Senator Lugar, Senator Nunn, Senator Domenici, and Senator Obama work to resolve the real problems facing our nation and the world in a bipartisan effort to make all people safer from the terrorist threat: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

1   SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges the
2 efforts of Senator Richard Lugar in making the world a safer place and
3 promoting cooperative solutions to the world's problems.
4   SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
5 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Senator
6 Lugar, Senator Nunn, Senator Domenici, and Senator Obama.